

I CLAIM:

1. A window opening and closing assembly comprising:
  - a first member and a second member;
  - a rack gear slidably mounted between said first member and said second member;
  - a pinion gear operatively engaged with said rack gear;
  - a handle having a handle shaft connected to said pinion gear whereby rotatable movement of said handle shaft will cause said pinion to move said rack gear;
  - a pin mounted on one side of said pinion gear, said pin moving from a first position when said handle is in a fully open position to a second position when said handle is in a fully closed position;
  - a resilient element mounted in the path of said pin proximate each of said first and second positions, the arrangement being such that as said pin approaches either of said first and second positions, said pin will contact one of said resilient elements to thereby cause said resilient element to temporarily deflect to permit passage of said pin, said resilient element returning to an original position after passage of the pin to thereby retain the pin in the desired position.
2. The window opening and closing assembly of Claim 1 wherein said first member and said second member each have a groove formed on an interiorly facing wall thereof, said rack gear having a flange extending outwardly on each side thereof, said flanges being slidably engaged in said grooves.

3. The window opening and closing assembly of Claim 1 wherein said resilient elements comprise a spring member mounted between said first member and said second member, said spring member having a base and a pair of legs, each one of said legs having a notch formed therein to thereby form said resilient element.

4. A window opening and closing assembly comprising:

first and second members;

a rack gear and a pinion gear mounted between said first and second members, said first and second members being secured together to hold said rack gear and said pinion gear in a desired position;

said rack gear being slidably mounted and moveable between first and second positions, said rack gear having a tongue extending exteriorly from between said first and second members;

said pinion gear being operatively engaged with said rack gear;

a handle having a handle shaft connected to said pinion gear whereby rotatable movement of said handle shaft will cause said pinion to move said rack gear within said housing between said first and second positions; and

a housing member having an interior cavity, said housing member enclosing said first and second members within said cavity, said housing having means for releaseable securing to one of said first and second members.